

Exhibit 8

HEALTH

Some hospitals pause gender-affirming care to evaluate Trump's executive order

Transgender rights supporters rally outside of the Supreme Court, Wednesday, Dec. 4, 2024, in Washin

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BY CARLA K. JOHNSON, DEVNA BOSE AND LAURA BARGFELD

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Hospitals in Colorado, Virginia and the nation's capital said Thursday they have paused [gender-affirming care](#) for young people as they evaluate [President Donald Trump's executive order](#) aimed at cutting federal support for such care.

Denver Health in Colorado has stopped providing gender-affirming surgeries for people under age 19, a spokesperson confirmed Thursday, in order to comply with the executive order and continue receiving federal funding. It is unclear whether the hospital will continue providing other gender-affirming care for

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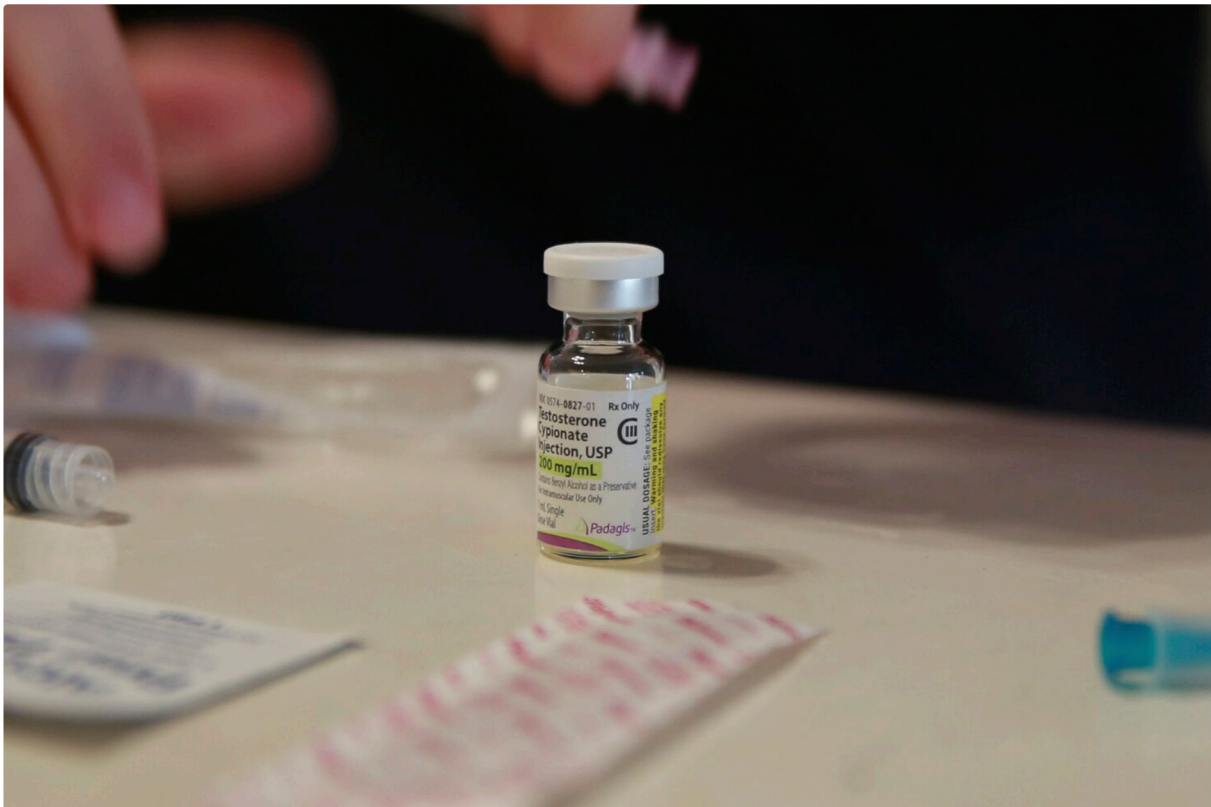


Trump's order, signed Tuesday, is part of a push to reverse Biden administration policies meant to protect transgender people and their care. It ordered agencies to take steps to make sure that hospitals receiving federal research and education grants "end the chemical and surgical mutilation of children."

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Other hospitals told The Associated Press that their current practices would continue. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago said hospital officials are reviewing the order and "assessing any potential impact to the clinical services we offer to our patient families."

“Our team will continue to advocate for access to medically necessary care, grounded in science and compassion for the patient-families we are so privileged to serve,” the statement said.

The language in Trump’s executive order — using words such as “maiming,” “sterilizing” and “mutilation” — contradicts what is typical for [gender-affirming care](#) in the United States. It also labels guidance from the World Professional Association for Transgender Health as “junk science.”

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WPATH said in a statement that restrictions and bans on “access to necessary medical care for transgender youth are harmful to patients and their families.”

Gender-affirming medical care for transgender youth isn’t common. A [new study](#) shows that fewer than 1 in 1,000 U.S. adolescents with commercial insurance received puberty blockers or hormones during a recent five-year period, and the bulk of gender-affirming surgeries [are not performed](#) on youth.

The Denver hospital said Trump’s order would affect the mental health of its transgender patients, and that they would continue to receive primary and behavioral health care.

“Denver Health is committed to and deeply concerned for the health and safety of our gender diverse patients under the age of 19,” the hospital’s statement said.

This story has been corrected to show that Trump’s order was signed Tuesday, not Thursday.

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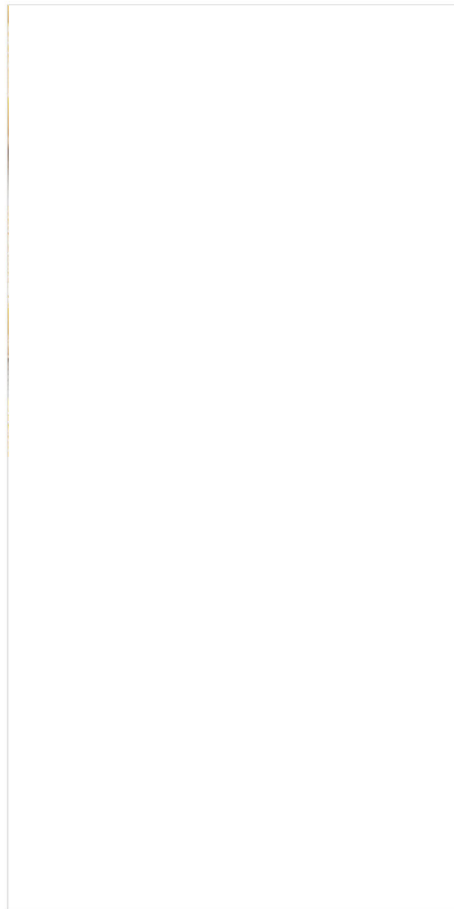


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